

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A socket, comprising:

a socket body arranged to load ~~first and second memory modules in the same direction while the socket body remains detached from a circuit board~~ electrically connect a first memory module in series between a second memory module and a base socket that is electrically connected to the first memory module, the socket body arranged to load the first memory module and the second memory module;

a first conductor arranged to connect a contact on a first surface of the first memory module to a contact on a first surface of the second memory module; and

a second conductor arranged to connect a contact on a second surface of the first memory module to a contact on a second surface of the second memory module.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) A through socket adapted to load a plurality of memory modules, comprising:

a through socket body arranged to load a first memory module, a second memory module, and a third memory module, said first, second and third memory modules being loaded in a base socket mounted to a board;

a first conductor arranged to connect a contact on a first surface of the first memory module to a contact on a first surface of the second memory module;

a second conductor arranged to connect a contact on a second surface of the second memory module to a contact on the first surface of the third memory module; and

a third conductor arranged to connect a contact on a second surface of the first memory module to a contact on a second surface of the third memory module;

wherein the through socket is structured to load said memory modules either above or to the side of said base socket mounted on said board.

5-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A memory module ~~socket, socket~~ comprising:

a socket body arranged to load structured to electrically connect a first memory module having a first major surface and a second major surface and in series between a second memory modules in the same direction while said socket body remains detached from a circuit board module having a first major surface and a second major surface and a base socket that is attached to a board. the socket body structured to be detachably affixed to the first and second memory modules along first edges of the first and second memory modules. the first memory module and the second memory module each having first contacts on the first major surface and second contacts on the second major surface;

a first conductor arranged structured to electrically connect a plurality of adjacent contacts one of the first contacts on a first surface of the first memory module to a plurality of adjacent contacts on a first surface corresponding one of the first contacts of the second memory module; and

a second conductor arranged structured to electrically connect a plurality of adjacent contacts one of the second contacts on a second surface of the first memory module to a plurality of adjacent contacts on a second surface corresponding one of the second contacts of the second memory module.

27. (Currently amended) The memory module socket of claim 26, wherein the socket body is arranged to load the first and second memory modules in opposite directions structured so that when the first memory module and second memory module are loaded in the socket body, a direction from the first edge of the first memory module towards a second edge of the first memory module is opposite a direction from the first edge of the second memory module towards a second edge of the second memory module, the second edge of the first memory module opposite the first edge of the first memory module, the second edge of the second memory module opposite the first edge of the second memory module.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) The memory module socket of claim 26 claim 26, wherein the socket body is arranged to load a second memory module in the same direction structured so that when the first memory module and second memory module are loaded in the socket body, a direction from the first edge of the first memory module towards a second edge of the first memory module is the same as a direction from the first edge of the second memory module towards a second edge of the second memory module, the second edge of

the first memory module opposite the first edge of the first memory module, the second edge of the second memory module opposite the first edge of the second memory module.

30-41. (Cancelled)

42. (New) The socket of claim 2, the socket body arranged to load the first memory module and the second memory module such that the first memory module and the second memory module are aligned substantially with a single plane.

43. (New) The socket of claim 2, the socket body arranged to load the first memory module and the second memory module such that the first memory module is substantially aligned with a first plane, the second memory module is substantially aligned with a second plane, and the first and second planes are substantially parallel to each other.